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February 23, 2010

RE: Opposition – SB-63 Paid Sick Leave Mandate

To Members of the Labor Committee;

My family business employs over 100 people in Connecticut (Enfield and North Haven) and a total of 150 throughout the Northeast. For 50 years we have been in the business of remanufacturing truck driveline components, truck service and parts distribution.

As a business owner, I am writing to voice my opposition to the Paid Sick Leave Mandate (Senate Bill SB-63). This proposal will substantially increase our business costs. **With our company's sales in decline, if our costs increase due to benefits mandates, such as Paid Sick Leave, our business will be forced to cutback existing benefits that are offered to employees, suspend hiring plans, potentially layoff more workers and reduce work schedules at our Connecticut remanufacturing and distribution facilities.**

No other states have such a mandate. This proposal will make Connecticut a higher cost, less competitive and ultimately less desirable place to do business. Employers need the flexibility to design and negotiate their own benefit and time off policies that best meet the needs of their employees, business demands and productivity needs. Connecticut business do not need a one-size fits all policy that will make them less competitive. We need lawmakers to encourage growth and enhance our ability to expand and create jobs in Connecticut.

This is NOT the time to make it harder to do business in Connecticut.

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut.

Sincerely,
CAMEROTA TRUCK PARTS


Frank Camerota, President
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